10151-508

ASTRO BOY

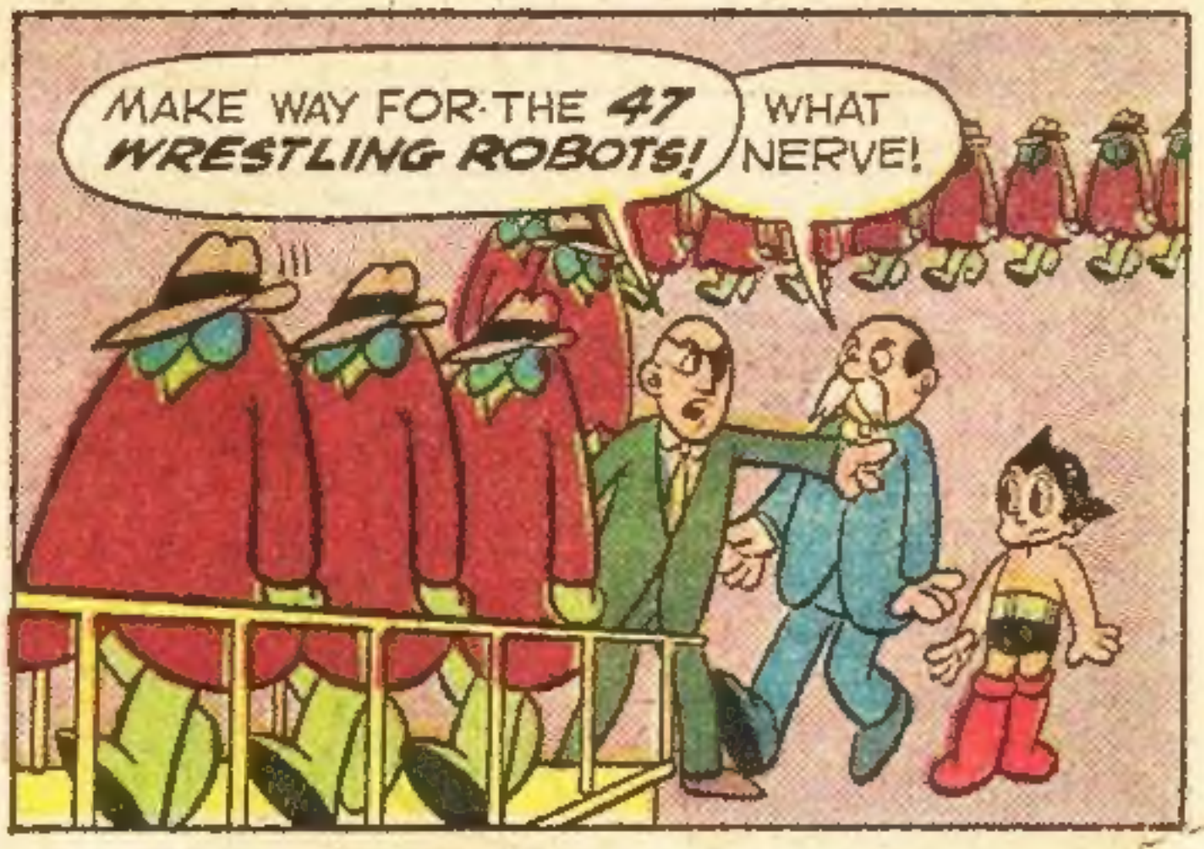
An indestructible robot monster threatens to destroy the world—unless Astro Boy can stop it!

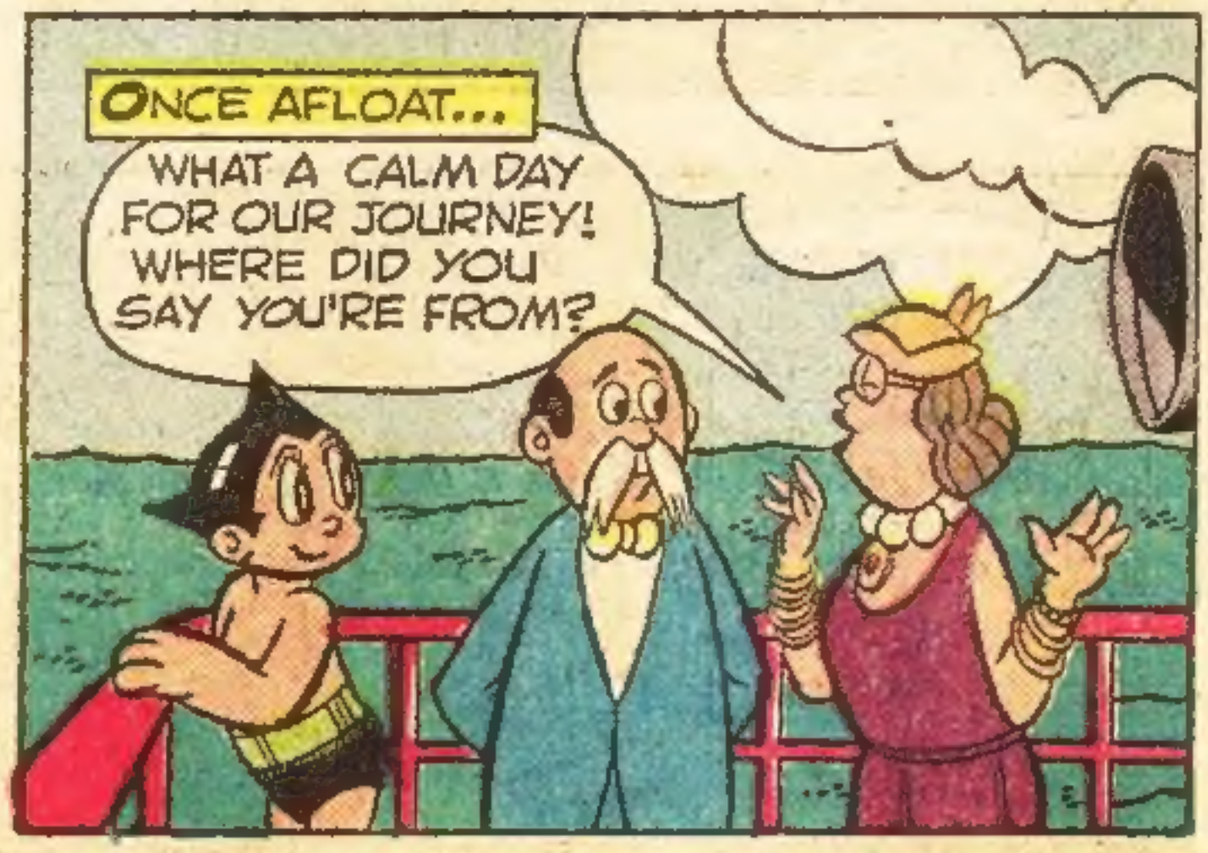
© 1965, NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.

ASTRO BOY

GANGOR THE MONSTER

ATTENTION, PASSENGERS! PLEASE BE READY TO COME ABOARD!
PIER
TRINIDAD, IN THE YEAR 2000... THE FAMED LUXURY LINER, "EMPRESS OF THE SEAS" PREPARES TO SAIL TO NEW YORK...





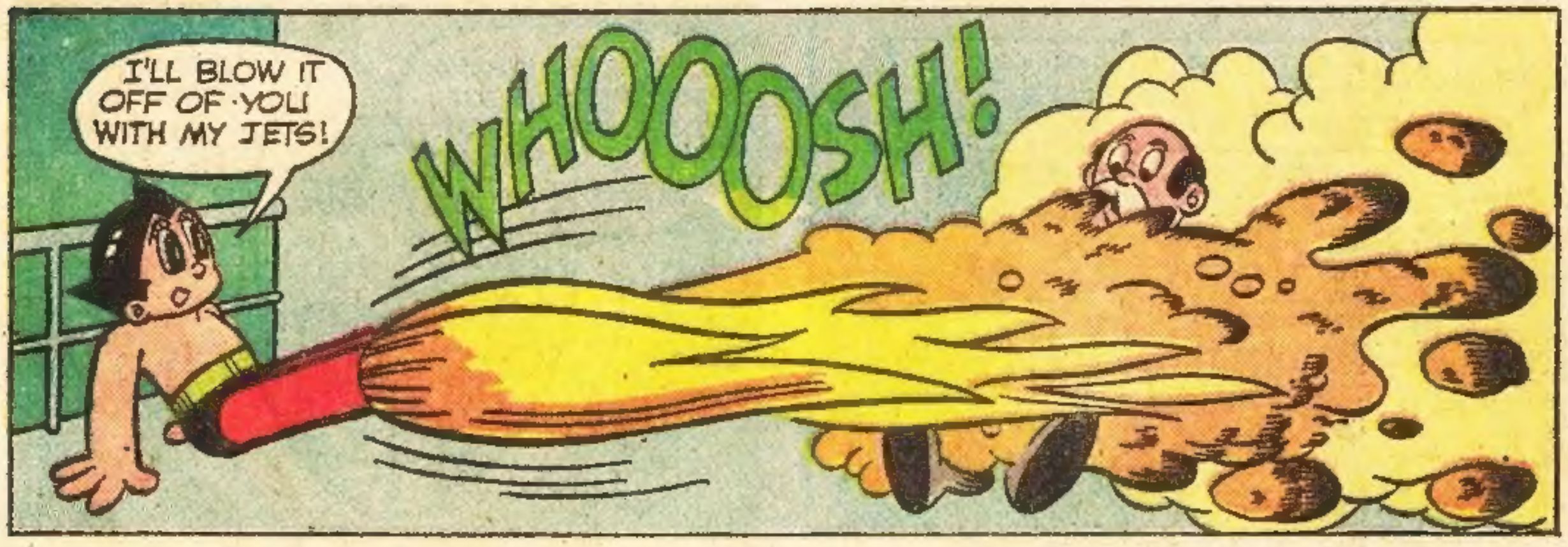
ASTRO BOY, No. 1. Published by K.K. Publications, Inc., Poughkeepsie, New York, in cooperation with Golden Press, Inc. All rights reserved throughout the world. Authorized edition. Designed, produced and printed in the U.S.A. by Western Printing and Lithographing Company. Copyright © 1965, by National Broadcasting Company, Inc.

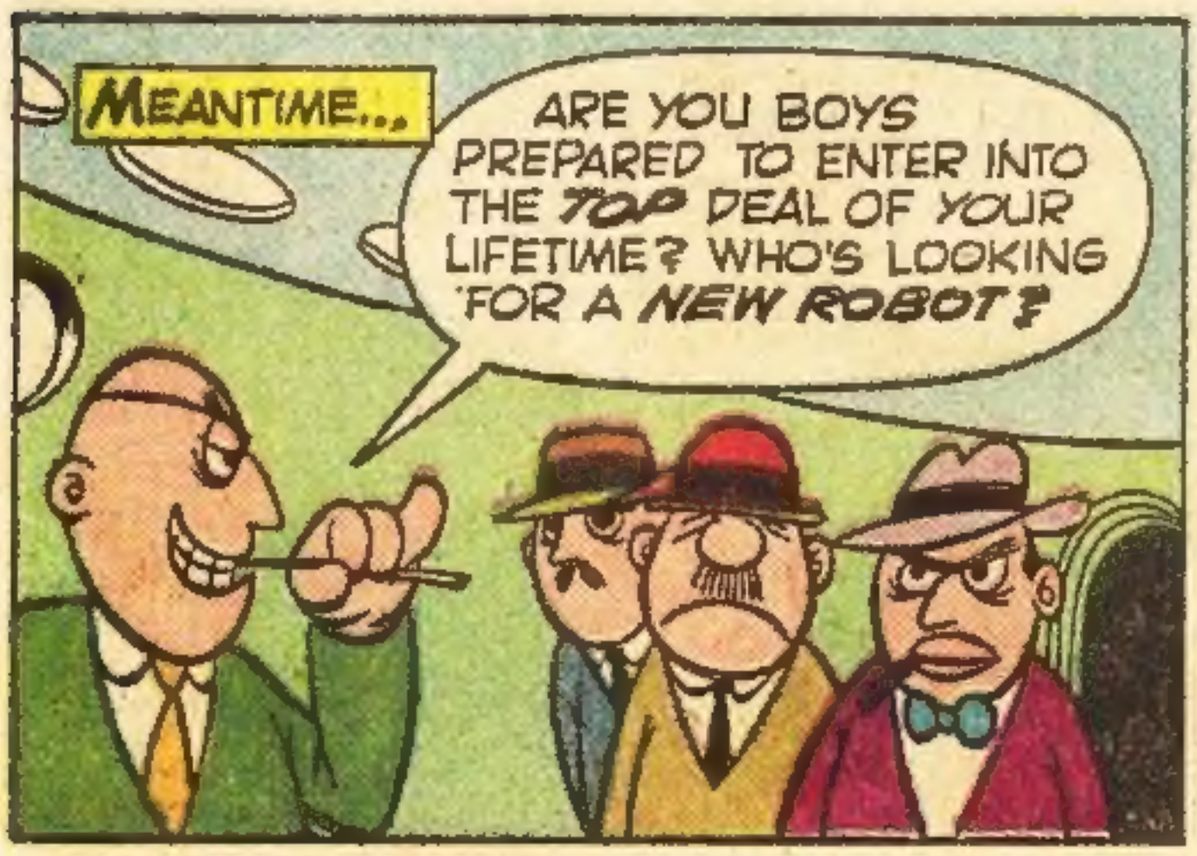
WE'RE COMING FROM THE CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ROBOTOLOGISTS!
WELL...
I'D CERTAINLY ATTEND A CONVENTION OF THE JEWEL SOCIETY IF THERE WAS ONE!
THAT NIGHT...
M-M-M-
M-MONSTER!
LET'S GO SEE HIM!
AS ASTRO BOY AND THE PROFESSOR RUSH TO THE UPPER DECK...
PFFFFT!
WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE ABOUT, LITTLE ROBOT?
I DON'T KNOW...SOMEBODY YELLED "MONSTER" AND WE RAN TO LOOK...

HE?
SAY! WHERE'S PROFESSOR BUNSEN?

LOOK, ASTRO BOY!
A BLOB... A GOOEY BLOB! WHAT A MESS!
THE MESS IS ME!
BUMP! BUMP!

FORGIVE ME, PROFESSOR!
AS I WAS RUNNING, SOMEBODY PITCHED THIS GOOEY MESS ALL OVER ME! WILL YOU KINDLY GET IT OFF?

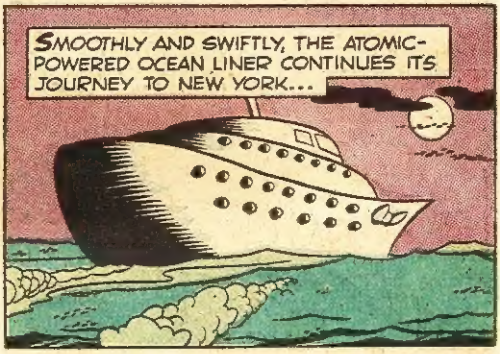

I'LL BLOW IT OFF OF YOU WITH MY JETS!
WHOOOSH!

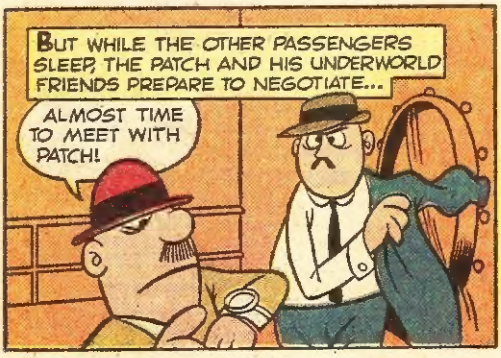

MEANTIME...
ARE YOU BOYS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO THE TOP DEAL OF YOUR LIFETIME? WHO'S LOOKING FOR A NEW ROBOT?

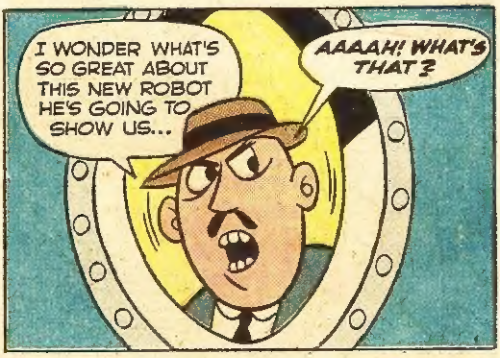
NOT SO FAST, PATCH! YOU CHEATED ME WITH THE LAST ROBOT I GOT!
LOUIE, YOU'RE ALL WRONG!

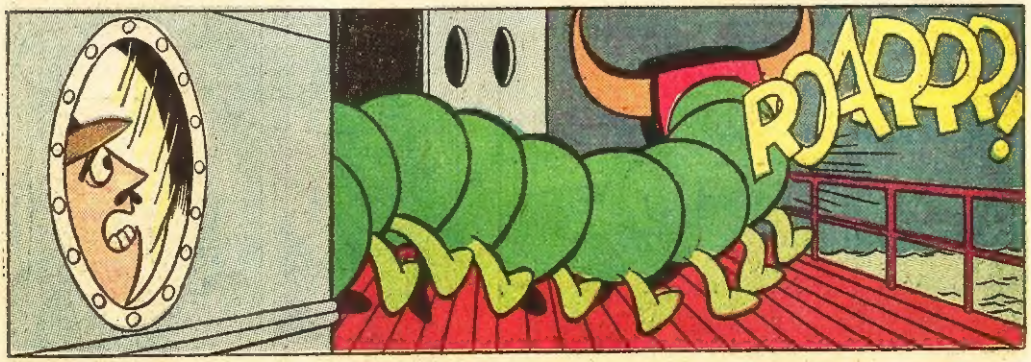
I WOULD NEVER CHEAT YOU FELLOWS! CROSS MY HEART!
YOU PULLED A FAST ONE, PATCH, WHEN YOU SOLD US THOSE LAST ROBOTS!

YOU'VE GOT ME ALL WRONG...WAIT'LL YOU GET A LOAD OF MY BRAND-NEW ROBOT...IT'S A ONE-MAN GANG ROBOT!


SMOOTHLY AND SWIFTLY, THE ATOMIC-POWERED OCEAN LINER CONTINUES ITS JOURNEY TO NEW YORK...


BUT WHILE THE OTHER PASSENGERS SLEEP, THE PATCH AND HIS UNDERWORLD FRIENDS PREPARE TO NEGOTIATE...
ALMOST TIME TO MEET WITH PATCH!


I WONDER WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THIS NEW ROBOT HE'S GOING TO SHOW US...
AAAAH! WHAT'S THAT?


ROARRR!

CRASH!

ROARR!

EEEEEE!!

IT'S TAKING ALL MY MONEY AND JEWELS!

ROARR!

WHAM!

SMASH!

WHAT IS IT, ASTRO BOY?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I SURE INTEND TO *FIND OUT!*

ATTENTION, ALL PASSENGERS! A *MONSTER ROBOT* IS ROAMING THE SHIP! S-STAY IN YOUR CABINS AND REMAIN *C-CALM!*

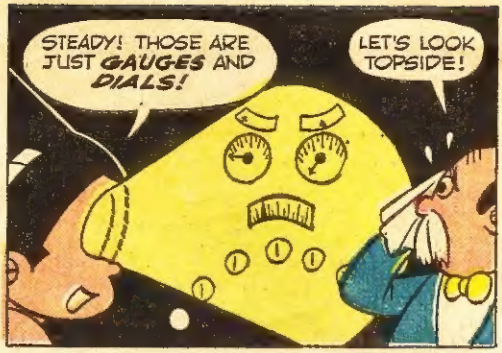
LOOK WHAT THE MONSTER DID!

IT WENT *THAT* WAY!

LOOK HOW THAT LADDER'S BENT!

SHHH! FOLLOW ME QUIETLY, MEN!

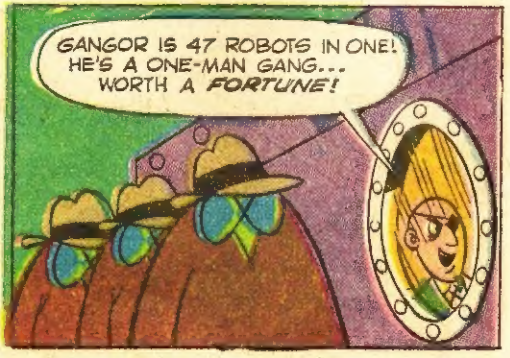
LOOK! THERE IT IS!
EEEYOW!


STEADY! THOSE ARE JUST GAUGES AND DIALS!
LET'S LOOK TOPSIDE!

HOLD IT, GENTLEMEN! HAVE YOU SEEN A ROBOT MONSTER ROAMING ABOUT?

ONE MOMENT, GENTLEMEN! I ASKED YOU A QUESTION!
WHAT RUDENESS! THEY DIDN'T EVEN LOOK AT ASTRO BOY!

MEANTIME IN PATCH'S CABIN...
SELL GANGOR TO ME!
NO... TO ME!
YOU WANT A LOT OF DOUGH FOR ONE ROBOT!


GANGOR IS 47 ROBOTS IN ONE! HE'S A ONE-MAN GANG... WORTH A FORTUNE!

SPEAK UP...THERE'S A COOL *MILLION BUCKS* HERE! COUNT IT AND SEE!

MAKE THE DEAL!

THEY WANT GANGOR SO MUCH, THEY'RE PRACTICALLY *PLEADING!*

COME IN, BOYS!

TAKE THE MILLION BUCKS, PATCH...OR WE'LL *BLAST* YOU AND TAKE GANGOR FOR *NOTHING!*

GANGOR IS THE WORLD'S *GREATEST* ROBOT AND I'LL *NOT* TAKE CHICKEN FEED! I WANT *TEN TIMES* AS MUCH OR YOU CAN ALL GET OUT!

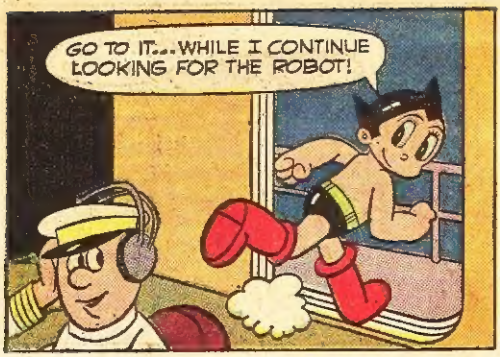
...BUT, PROFESSOR, DO YOU HAVE ANY *PROOF* THAT THIS MAD MONSTER IS A ROBOT?

I CAN PROVE IT, CAPTAIN! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS *FIND* IT!

I WISH DR ELEFUN WAS HERE TO LEND A HAND! *HE'D* KNOW WHAT TO DO!

SNAP!

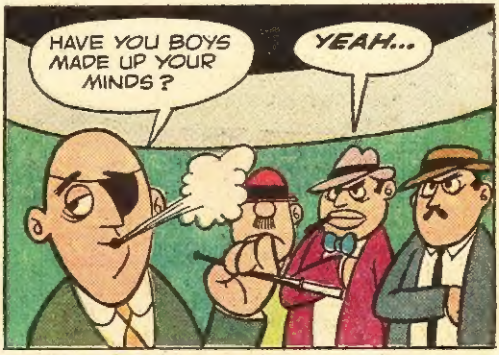
WE MIGHT SEND A *WIRELESS* MESSAGE TO HIM, ASTRO BOY!

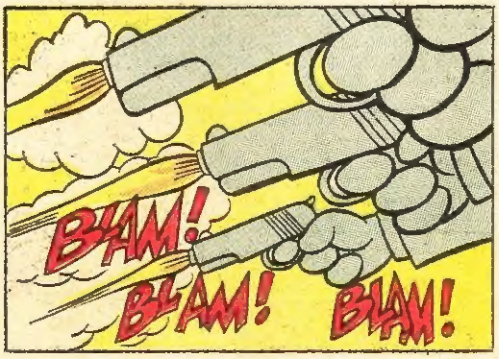

GO TO IT...WHILE I CONTINUE LOOKING FOR THE ROBOT!

WELL?
IF YOU DON'T SELL HIM, PATCH, THEN WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE HIM!

YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO TRY THAT, BROWS!
FORK OVER THE TEN MILLION AND WE'LL CLOSE THE DEAL NOW!

WHY BEAT AROUND THE BUSH, BOYS, HE'S BEGGING TO BE BLASTED! WE WANT THAT ROBOT! SO...


HAVE YOU BOYS MADE UP YOUR MINDS?
YEAH...


BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

YOU'LL BE SORRY... NOW YOU'LL PAY MORE...THAN MONEY!

...YOU'LL SEE!

LOOK!

THUMP!

ALL THOSE R-ROBOTS JOINING TOGETHER TO M-MAKE...

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

GANGOR!

LOOK OUT, BOYS! IT'S GOING TO *GET* US!

ROARRR!

PFFFFFT!

ASTRO BOY, YOUR FRIEND, DR. ELEFUN, IS ON THE WIRE...

ROARRR!

THE MONSTER!

WATCH OUT!

PFFFFT!

ROARRR!

ASTRO BOY!

SPLASH!

W-WE'RE AT THAT MONSTER'S MERCY!

SEND AN S.O.S.!

ROARRR!

MORNING... ASTRO BOY IS STILL TRAPPED IN THE STICKY BLOB, UNABLE TO MANEUVER HIS JETS TO BLAST FREE...

SUDDENLY, A SCHOOL OF SHARKS APPROACHES...

AS THEY ATTACK...

CRUNCH!

I'M FREE!

WHOOPS!

WHAM!

WHAM!

I'M VERY GRATEFUL TO YOU SHARKS, BUT I *DON'T* INTEND TO WIND UP AS YOUR BREAKFAST!

NOW TO FIND THAT SHIP BEFORE THE MONSTER ROBOT TEARS IT APART!

WHAT'S *THIS?*

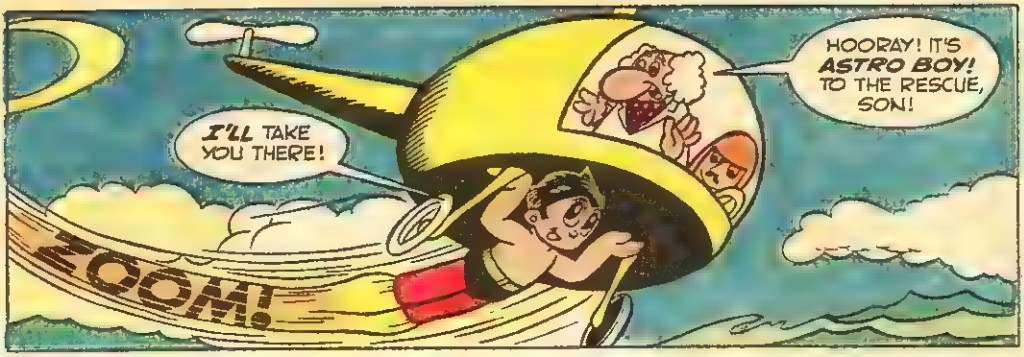
CONK! PUFF! PUFF!

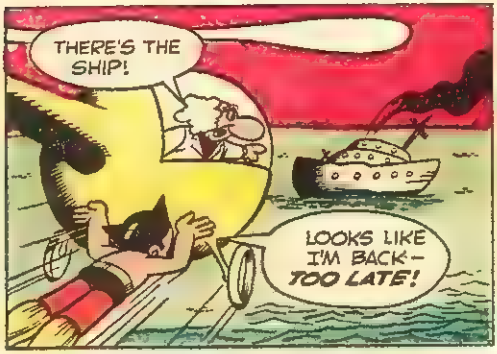
DR. ELEFUN! OUR MOTOR HAS *CONKED OUT!*

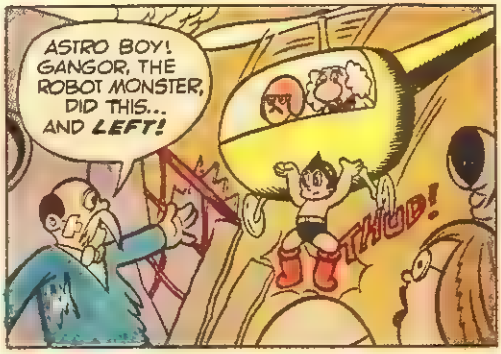
PUFF!

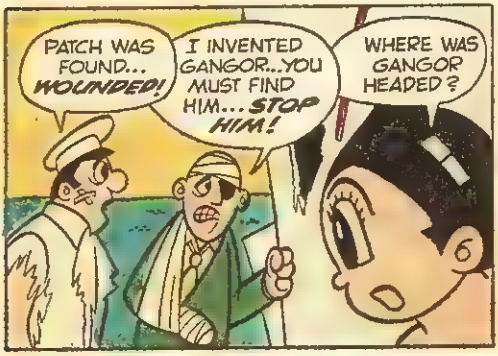
SPUTTER!

NO! YOU HEARD THE SHIP'S S.O.S., WE MUST SAVE THE PASSENGERS FROM DESTRUCTION! *KEEP GOING!*

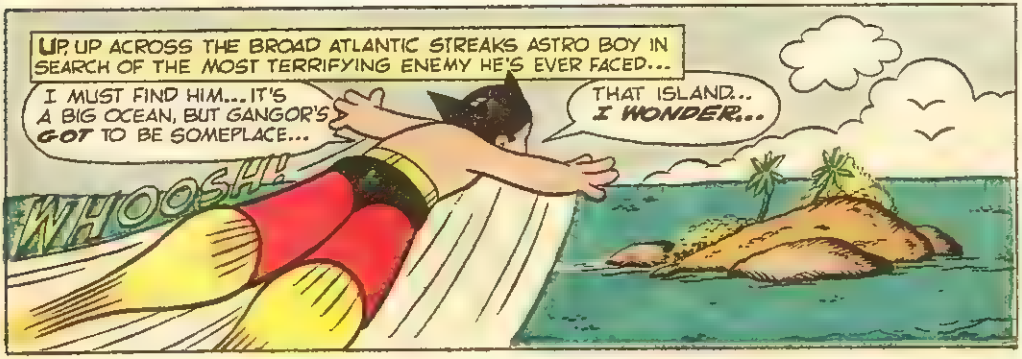

I'LL TAKE YOU THERE!
HOORAY! IT'S ASTRO BOY! TO THE RESCUE, SON!
ZOOM!


THERE'S THE SHIP!
LOOKS LIKE I'M BACK— TOO LATE!


ASTRO BOY! GANGOR, THE ROBOT MONSTER, DID THIS... AND LEFT!
THUD!


PATCH WAS FOUND... WOUNDED!
I INVENTED GANGOR...YOU MUST FIND HIM... STOP HIM!
WHERE WAS GANGOR HEADED?

OUT TO SEA!
GOOD HUNTING, ASTRO BOY!


UP, UP ACROSS THE BROAD ATLANTIC STREAKS ASTRO BOY IN SEARCH OF THE MOST TERRIFYING ENEMY HE'S EVER FACED...
I MUST FIND HIM... IT'S A BIG OCEAN, BUT GANGOR'S GOT TO BE SOMEPLACE...
WHOOSH!
THAT ISLAND... I WONDER...

HE'S BEEN HERE ALL RIGHT!

IT LOOKS LIKE A *HURRICANE* STRUCK!

LATER, AT AN OFFSHORE LIGHTHOUSE...

THIS IS GETTING WORSE...I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM... *FAST!*

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYWHERE ON THE SURFACE!

I WONDER IF GANGOR IS *UNDER* WATER!

AHA! THERE ARE HIS FOOTPRINTS!

HE'S RESTING AFTER ALL HIS DESTRUCTION!

GANGOR!

GANGOR INSTANTLY SPRINGS INTO ACTION...

MISSED ME... BUT JUST SO YOU WON'T TRY IT AGAIN...

BONK!

NOW THE FIGHT'S MORE EVEN...

TAKE...

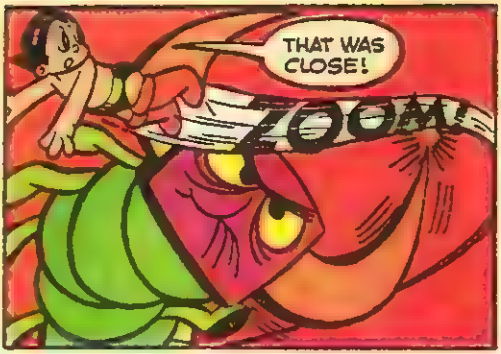
THAT!

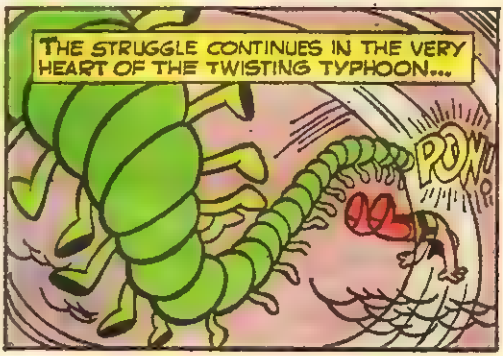
...AND THAT!

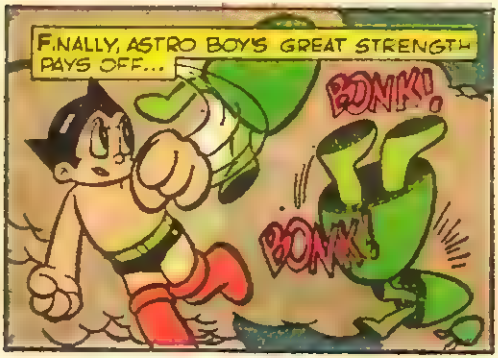
THE BATTLE HAS BARELY BEGUN WHEN THE WATERS START SWIRLING AS A TERRIBLE TYPHOON SUDDENLY STRIKES...

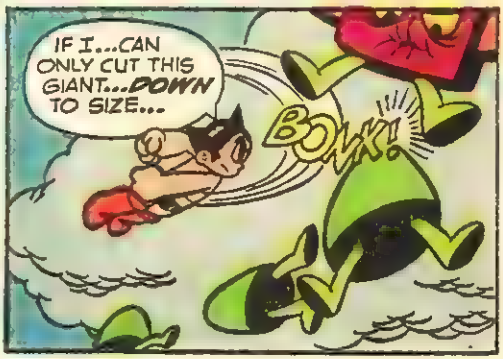
WHAP! WHAP! WHAP!

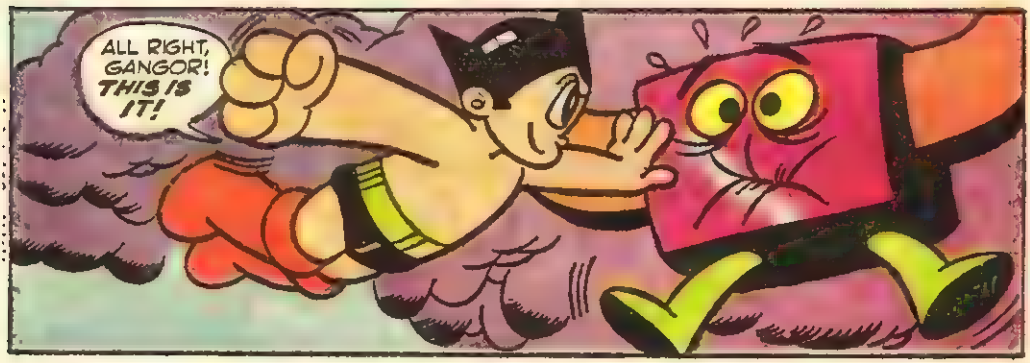
ASTRO BOY AND GANGOR ARE WRENCHED UP INTO THE FUNNEL...

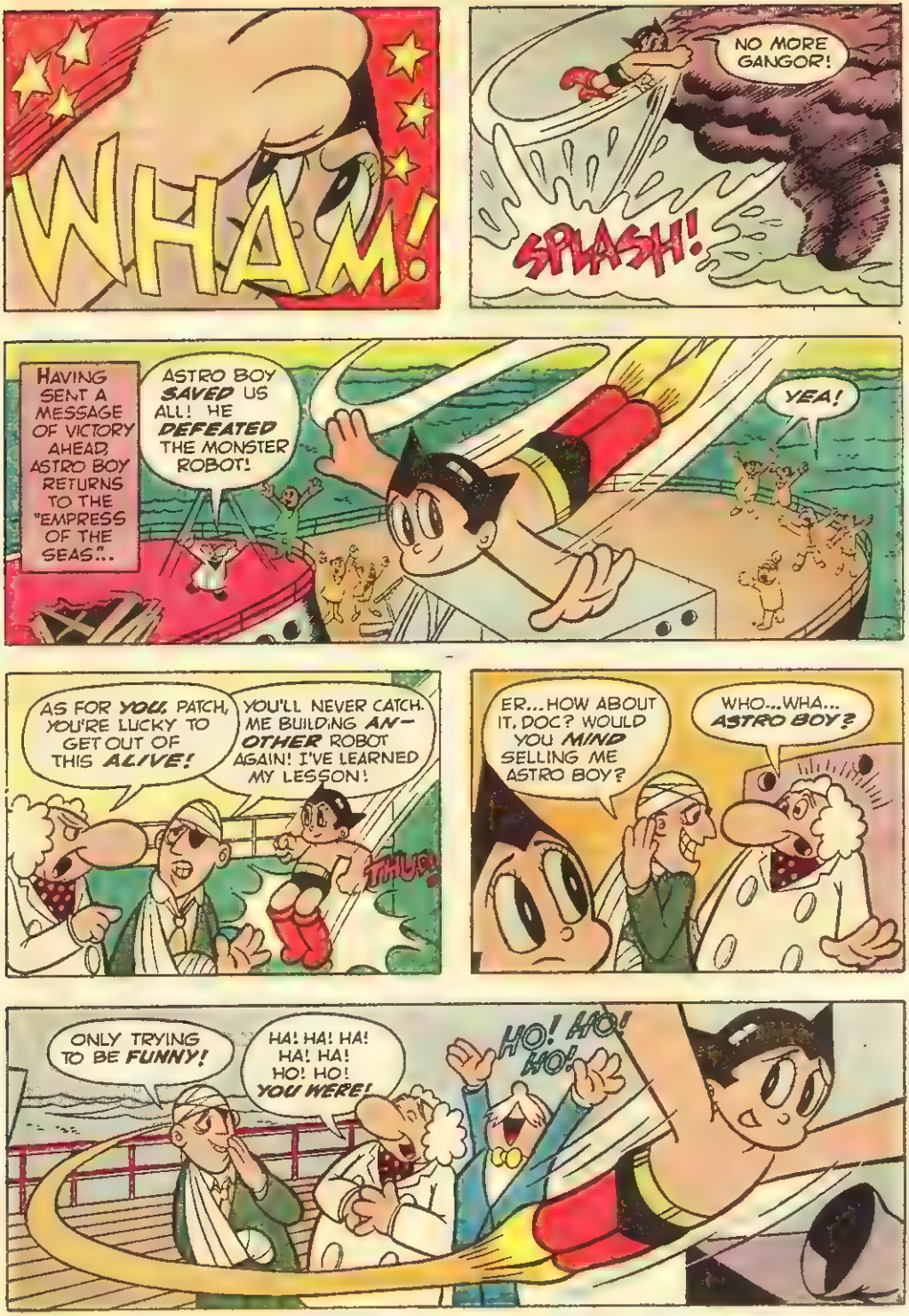

THAT WAS CLOSE!
ZOOM!


THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES IN THE VERY HEART OF THE TWISTING TYPHOON...
PUNCH!


FINALLY, ASTRO BOY'S GREAT STRENGTH PAYS OFF...
BONK!
BONK!


IF I...CAN ONLY CUT THIS GIANT...DOWN TO SIZE...
BONK!

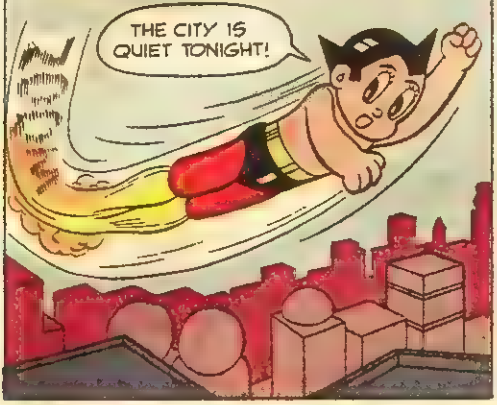

ALL RIGHT, GANGOR! THIS IS IT!

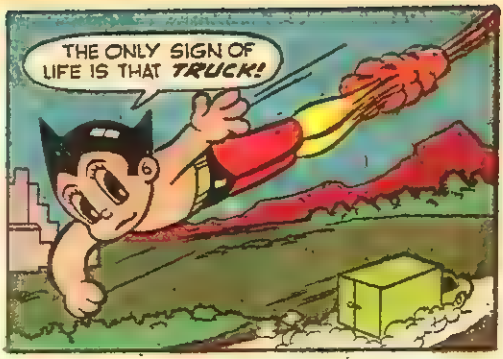

WHAM!
NO MORE GANGOR!
SPLASH!
HAVING SENT A MESSAGE OF VICTORY AHEAD, ASTRO BOY RETURNS TO THE "EMPRESS OF THE SEAS"...
ASTRO BOY SAVED US ALL! HE DEFEATED THE MONSTER ROBOT!
YEA!
AS FOR YOU, PATCH, YOU'RE LUCKY TO GET OUT OF THIS ALIVE!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME BUILDING ANOTHER ROBOT AGAIN! I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON!
THUD!
ER... HOW ABOUT IT, DOC? WOULD YOU MIND SELLING ME ASTRO BOY?
WHO... WHA... ASTRO BOY?
ONLY TRYING TO BE FUNNY!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HO! HO! YOU WERE!
HO! HO! HO!

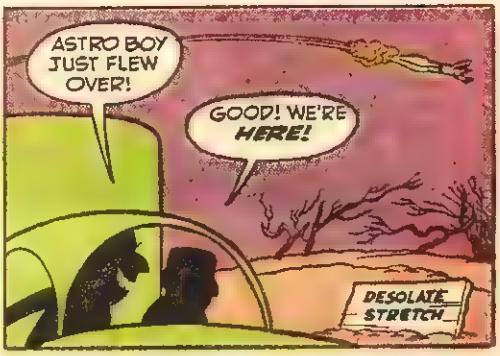
ASTRO BOY

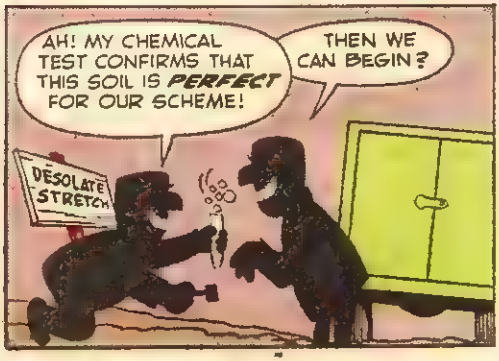
ATTACK OF THE MUD PEOPLE

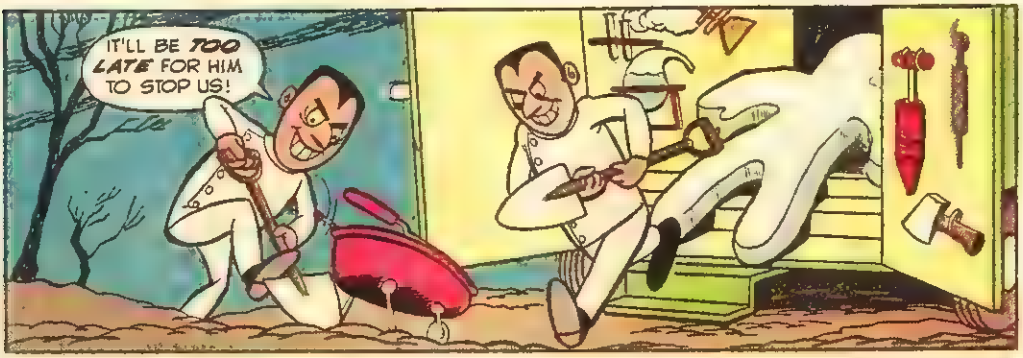
OUT OF THE NIGHT SKY SOARS THE AMAZING ROBOT, *ASTRO BOY*, ON PATROL AGAINST EVIL...











EARLY NEXT MORNING, AS A FARMER STARTS WORK...
JUMPING JUGHEADS!
WHAT IN TARNATION IS THAT?
PA! THERE'S MORE!
I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THEM CRITTERS! GIT MY GUN!
CRUNCH!
TH-THEY'RE WRECKING THE HOUSE!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THERE'S MONSTERS HEADIN' THIS WAY!
PHONE THE POLICE!
THEY'RE RIPPING DOWN THE WIRES!

FARMERS AND SUBURBANITES FLEE TO THE CITY...

HELP!

THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND US!

NOW, NOW... CALM DOWN!

ARE YOU KIDDING? LOOK!

(GULP!) WHAT ARE THEY?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'M ORDERING THEM TO STOP, OR I'LL SHOOT!

CRUNCH!

ALL RIGHT! YOU ASKED FOR IT!

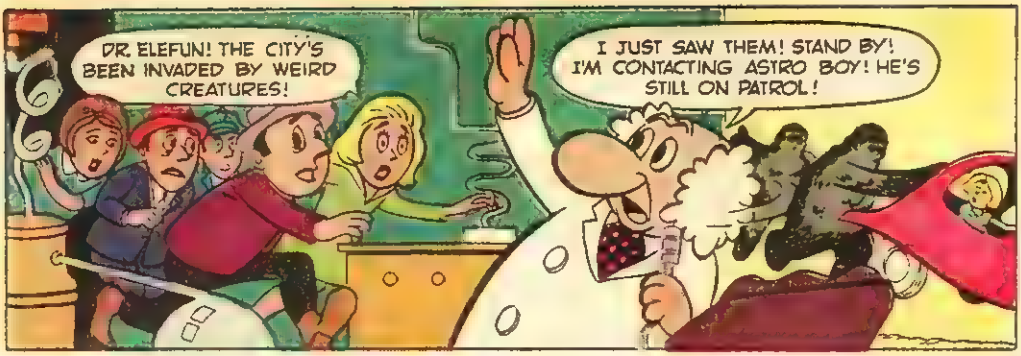
POW!

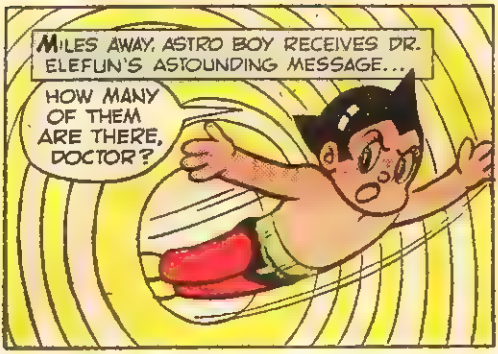
POW!

YOUR BULLETS PASSED RIGHT THROUGH THEM, OFFICER, BUT THEY'RE STILL COMING!

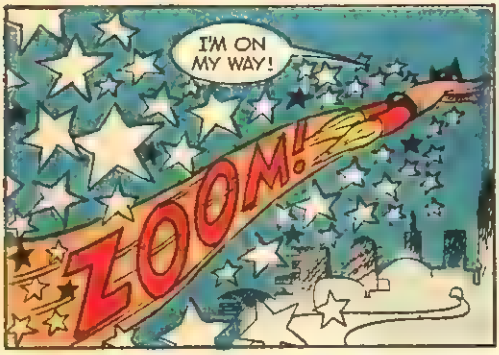
WHAT'LL WE DO?

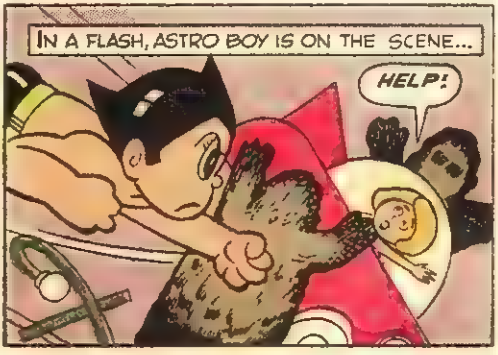
HEAD FOR THE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE! YOU'LL BE SAFE THERE...I HOPE!

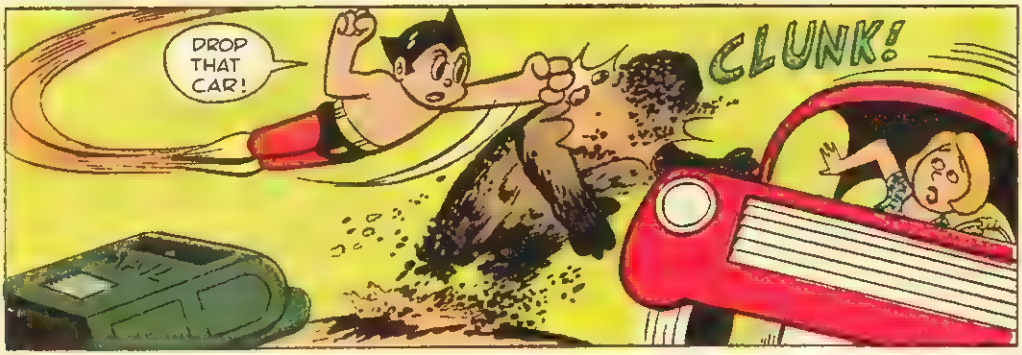

DR. ELEFUN! THE CITY'S BEEN INVADED BY WEIRD CREATURES!
I JUST SAW THEM! STAND BY! I'M CONTACTING ASTRO BOY! HE'S STILL ON PATROL!


MILES AWAY, ASTRO BOY RECEIVES DR. ELEFUN'S ASTOUNDING MESSAGE...
HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE, DOCTOR?

DOZENS! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEIR GAME IS, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP, ON THE DOUBLE!
SMASH!
KLUNK!


I'M ON MY WAY!
ZOOM!


IN A FLASH, ASTRO BOY IS ON THE SCENE...
HELP!


DROP THAT CAR!
CLUNK!

WH-WHY...IT CRUMBLED!

I THOUGHT THEY WERE ROBOTS!

THUD!

WATCH OUT, ASTRO BOY! TWO MORE BEHIND YOU!

SUMPK!

CLUNK!

LOOK! ASTRO BOY'S POUNDING THEM INTO...*DUST!*

I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A TOUGH FIGHT... BUT IT'S *EASY!*

CLUNK!

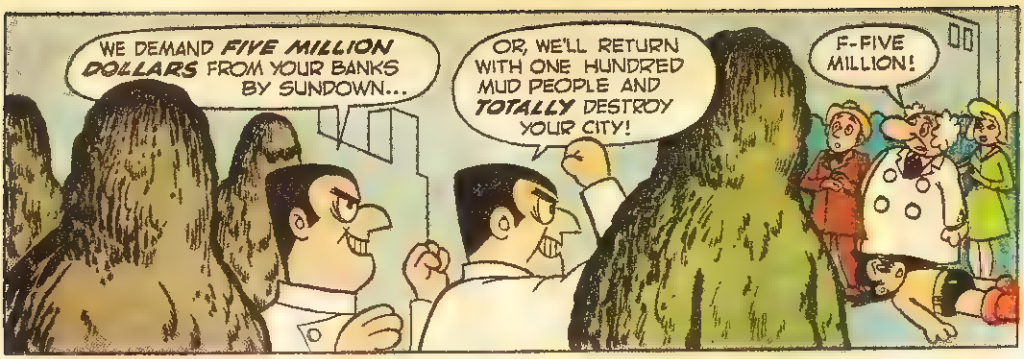
ASTRO BOY MAY BE OUTNUMBERED, BUT HE'S DOING *GREAT!*

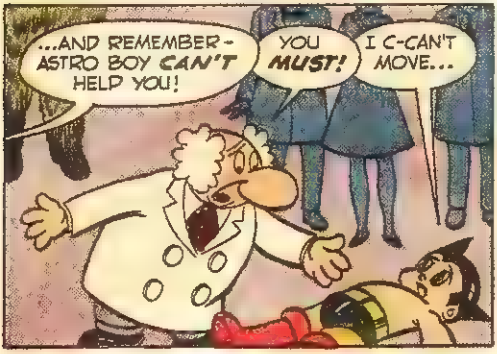
LET GO OF THAT LAMPPOST OR I'LL...

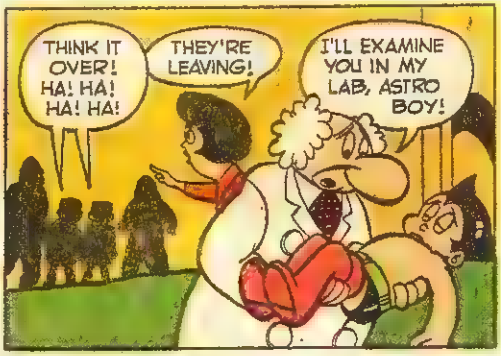
I'LL... I'LL...

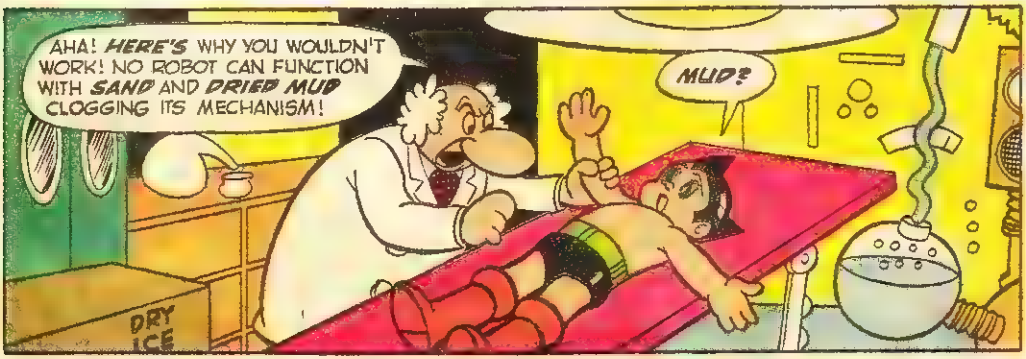
ASTRO BOY! *WHAT'S WRONG?*

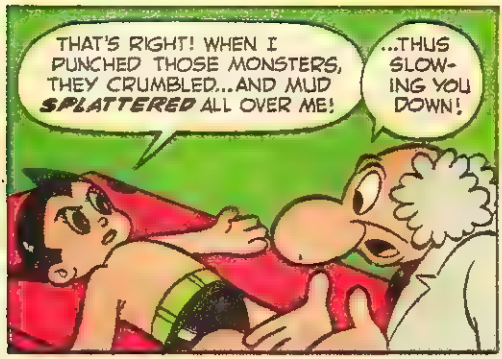
I DON'T KNOW...SEEM TO BE SLOWING DOWN... STRANGE...
PLOP!
WHAM!
POW!
ASTRO BOY! SPEAK TO ME!
I'M NOT HURT...BUT... I CAN'T MOVE...DOCTOR ...WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
ATTENTION, PEOPLE! THESE ARE THE TERROR TWINS SPEAKING!
YOU HAVE JUST WITNESSED A SAMPLE OF THE DESTRUCTION OUR MUD PEOPLE ARE CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT!
M-MUD PEOPLE?
THEY ARE INVINCIBLE! BULLETS CAN'T STOP THEM...EVEN THE GREAT ASTRO BOY LIES HELPLESS BEFORE THEM! WITHOUT HIM WHO CAN PROTECT YOU?
THEY'VE GOT A POINT!


WE DEMAND FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM YOUR BANKS BY SUNDOWN...
OR, WE'LL RETURN WITH ONE HUNDRED MUD PEOPLE AND TOTALLY DESTROY YOUR CITY!
F-FIVE MILLION!


...AND REMEMBER - ASTRO BOY CAN'T HELP YOU!
YOU MUST!
I C-CAN'T MOVE...


THINK IT OVER! HA! HA! HA! HA!
THEY'RE LEAVING!
I'LL EXAMINE YOU IN MY LAB, ASTRO BOY!


AHA! HERE'S WHY YOU WOULDN'T WORK! NO ROBOT CAN FUNCTION WITH SAND AND DRIED MUD CLOGGING ITS MECHANISM!
MUD?
DRY ICE


THAT'S RIGHT! WHEN I PUNCHED THOSE MONSTERS, THEY CRUMBLED...AND MUD SPLATTERED ALL OVER ME!
...THUS SLOWING YOU DOWN!

YOU MUST GET ME BACK IN OPERATION, DR. ELEFUN!
I'LL TRY...BUT IF YOU FIGHT THOSE MUD PEOPLE, HISTORY MAY REPEAT ITSELF!

IF ENOUGH MUD SPLATTERS YOU, YOU'LL BE OUT OF COMMISSION ONCE MORE...PERHAPS PERMANENTLY!
THAT'S JUST WHAT THE TERROR TWINS WANT!
---AND IF THEY GET YOU IN THEIR CLUTCHES WHEN YOU'RE HELPLESS, NO TELLING WHAT THEY'LL DO!
NO MATTER! I MUST TAKE THE CHANCE!
THERE, YOU'RE AS GOOD AS NEW!
THANKS, DR. ELEFUN! NOW TO TRACK DOWN THOSE CREATURES!
REMEMBER, ASTRO BOY, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE! DON'T LET THEM TRICK YOU!
I'LL DO MY BEST, SIR!
NEVERTHELESS THOSE MUD PEOPLE MUST BE DESTROYED BEFORE THEY RETURN TO WRECK THE CITY!
...BUT HOW? AND WHERE ARE THEY?
ONE HUNDRED MONSTERS WOULD BE HARD TO HIDE... YET, I DON'T SEE THEM!

ASTRO BOY SEARCHES ALL DAY...IN VAIN!

(GULP!) AND IT'S NEARING SUNDOWN!

COME IN, ASTRO BOY...

YES, DR. ELEFUN?

I'VE ANALYZED THE PARTICLES OF SOIL THAT I TOOK FROM YOU, ASTRO BOY...

THE CONTENT OF SAND IS *QUITE* HIGH...IT COULD COME FROM ONLY ONE PLACE...*DES-OLATE STRETCH!*

THAT MUST BE THEIR HIDING PLACE! I'LL INVESTIGATE!

BUT AS ASTRO BOY ROCKETS OVER DESOLATE STRETCH, HE SEES...

NOTHING! NO SIGN OF THE MUD PEOPLE!

DESOLATE STRETCH

SAY...THERE'S THE SAME TRUCK I SAW LAST NIGHT! I WONDER IF THERE'S ANY CONNECTION?

ASTRO BOY QUIETLY OPENS THE TRUCK DOORS...

THE TERROR TWINS!

POUR MORE MUD INTO THE *MOLD!* PACK IT DOWN!

CLOSE THE MOLD!
CLANG!
NOW, WHEN A CHARGE FROM OUR ELECTRO-ENERGIZER BEAM MIXES WITH THE SAND AND MUD..
ONE MORE MUD PEOPLE ROLLS OFF THE ASSEMBLY LINE...READY TO DO OUR BIDDING! HEH! HEH!
THIS IS WHAT YOU REALLY CALL MAKING SOMETHING FROM NOTHING!
WE NOW HAVE ENOUGH TO SACK THE TOWN...THEN THE WHOLE WORLD!
EVEN ASTRO BOY CAN'T STOP US!
DON'T BET ON IT!
HE'S RECOVERED!
SO WHAT? YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T HIT OUR MUD PEOPLE WITHOUT GREAT RISK TO YOURSELF!
THEN I WON'T HIT HIM!

I'LL LET YOUR ELECTRO-ENERGIZER MACHINE DO IT FOR ME!

CLUNK!

HE'S WRECKED OUR *GREATEST* INVENTION!

BUT ASTRO BOY CAN'T STOP *ONE HUNDRED* MUD PEOPLE!

RISE, MUD PEOPLE! ADVANCE ON THE CITY!

SLAM!

SUDDENLY, THE HIDING PLACE OF THE MUD PEOPLE IS REVEALED...AND ONE BY ONE THEY RISE UP FROM THE... BLEAK GROUND OF DESOLATE STRETCH...

THEY WERE *HERE* ALL THE TIME!

NO WONDER I COULDN'T SEE THEM FROM ABOVE! THEY *BLENDED* IN WITH THE GROUND!

CRASH

ONWARD! I COMMAND YOU TO FOLLOW ME!

IT'S NOW OR NEVER! I *MUST* STOP THEM!

HA! HA! HA! WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO STOP US...BUT YOU CAN'T!

THAT TREE...

IT'LL MAKE A PERFECT...

RIP!

...BATTERING-RAM!

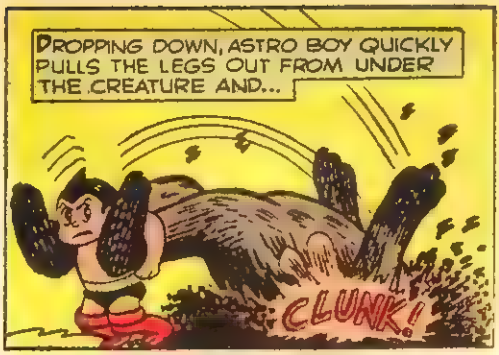
CLÜMMMK!

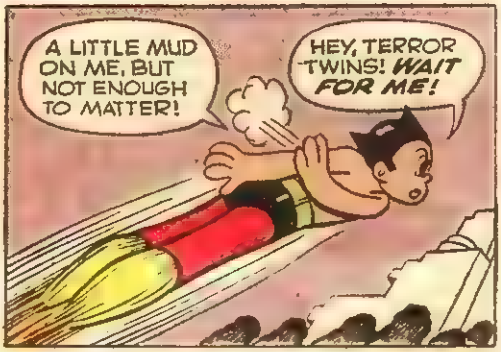
...GOT TO DODGE... THAT FLYING MUD!

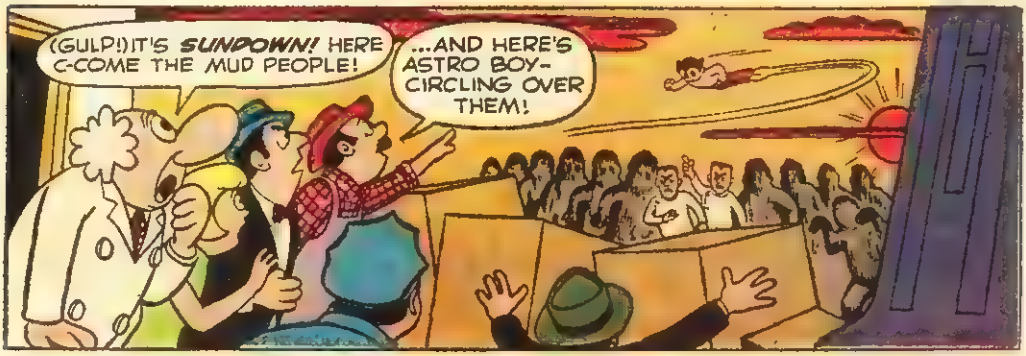
I COMMAND YOU TO GRAB ASTRO BOY!

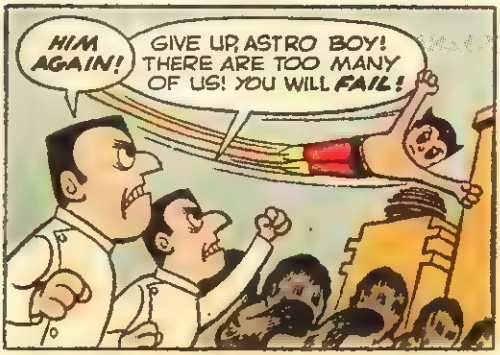
DON'T MOVE, ASTRO BOY! IF THE CREATURE CRUMBLES, YOU'LL BE COVERED WITH MUD AND SAND! *YOU'RE HELPLESS!*

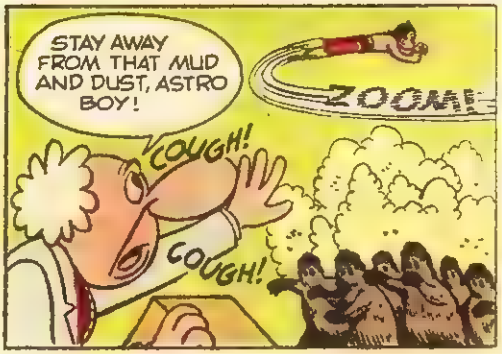
THERE MAY BE A WAY OUT OF THIS... IF I'M FAST!

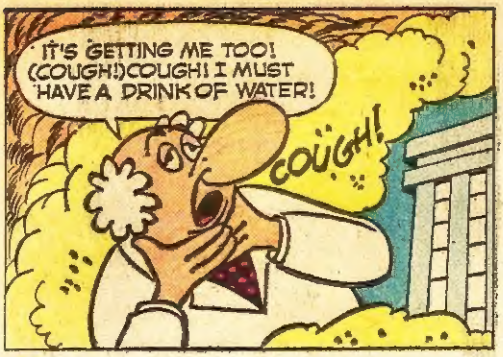

DROPPING DOWN, ASTRO BOY QUICKLY PULLS THE LEGS OUT FROM UNDER THE CREATURE AND...
CLUNK!


A LITTLE MUD ON ME, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO MATTER!
HEY, TERROR-TWINS! WAIT FOR ME!


(GULP!) IT'S SUNDOWN! HERE C-COME THE MUD PEOPLE!
...AND HERE'S ASTRO BOY- CIRCLING OVER THEM!


HIM AGAIN!
GIVE UP, ASTRO BOY! THERE ARE TOO MANY OF US! YOU WILL FAIL!

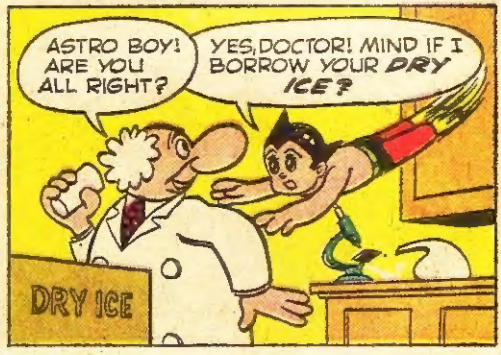

STAY AWAY FROM THAT MUD AND DUST, ASTRO BOY!
ZOOM!
COUGH!
COUGH!

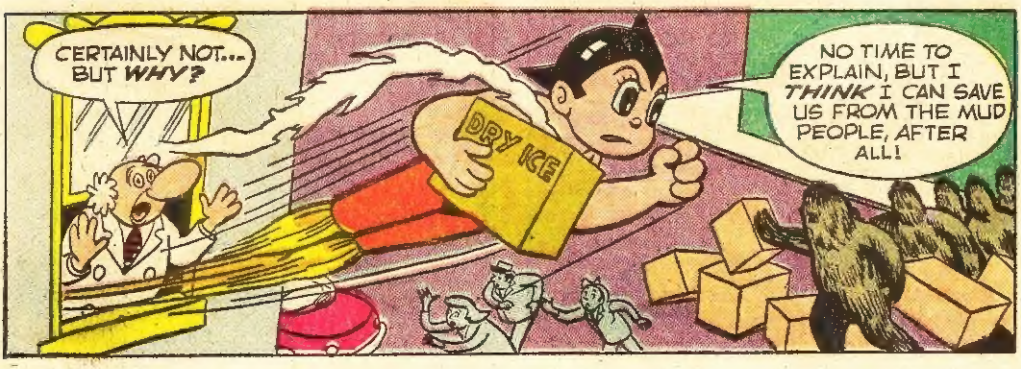

IT'S GETTING ME TOO! (COUGH!) COUGH! I MUST HAVE A DRINK OF WATER!
COUGH!

ASTRO BOY'S SENSITIVE HEARING PICKS UP DR. ELEFUN'S STATEMENT...
WATER! THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

(GASP!) ASTRO BOY IS FLYING AWAY!
CAN YOU BLAME HIM?
SPARE US! WE COULDN'T RAISE FIVE MILLION DOLLARS!

YOU'LL BE SORRY!
MUD PEOPLE-REDUCE THE CITY TO RUIN...WHILE WE CONFISCATE ALL THE VALUABLES!


ASTRO BOY! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES, DOCTOR! MIND IF I BORROW YOUR DRY ICE?
DRY ICE


CERTAINLY NOT... BUT WHY?
DRY ICE
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN, BUT I THINK I CAN SAVE US FROM THE MUD PEOPLE, AFTER ALL!

AS THE MUD PEOPLE BREAK THROUGH THE BARRICADE, ASTRO BOY STREAKS UP INTO THE SKY!

DRY ICE

THIS LOOKS LIKE THE KIND OF CLOUD I NEED!

ZOOM

IF MY PLAN ONLY WORKS...

DRY ICE

SUDDENLY, BELOW...

BANK

CRASH!

CRASH!

DESTROY! DESTROY!

PLUNK!

HEY, IT'S STARTING TO *RAIN!*

HUH?

IN FACT, IT'S A REGULAR *DOWN-POUR!*

LOOK! THE MUD PEOPLE ARE... DISSOLVING!
RIGHT! POUR WATER ON MUD AND IT WILL ALWAYS WASH AWAY! WHY DIDN'T WE THINK OF THIS BEFORE?
THE MUD PEOPLE ARE ALL WASHED UP...AND SO ARE YOU, TERROR TWINS!
BOP!
MUD MAY HAVE STOPPED ME, BUT RAIN DOESN'T HURT ME AT ALL!
HE'S RUSTPROOF!
BUT THE WEATHERMAN DIDN'T MENTION RAIN!
DR. ELEFUN ONCE TOLD ME IT'S POSSIBLE TO CREATE A CLOUDBURST BY 'SEEDING' THE CLOUDS WITH DRY ICE! YOU CAN THANK HIM!
(GROAN!) HOW ARE WE EVER GOING TO EXPLAIN THE FAILURE OF OUR MAGNIFICENT SCHEME TO OUR COLLEAGUES IN CRIME?
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT FOR MANY YEARS!
JUST TELL THE TRUTH! IT WAS CALLED OFF ON ACCOUNT OF RAIN!
PRISON

ASTRO BOY PIN-UP